IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- As is well known to those skilled in the art, physical objects, such as the physical controls, are often logically represented in a computer program using some form of variable. These variables have variable names that are descriptive of the control and its environment. For example, a radio control dial in a ~~Honda~~ HONDA™ automobile could be represented by the variable ~~HondaRadioControlDial~~ HONDARadioControlDial. Unfortunately, this descriptiveness in the variable naming conventions creates difficulties when attempting to develop platform-independent telematic applications.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Each physical device 302-306 has a corresponding one-dimensional logical device object 310-314 that represents the physical device 302-306 in application programs. As mentioned above, the one-dimensional logical device objects provide an interface between the application program 308 and the actual physical device 302-306. For example, in Figure 3, a RadioVolumeDial logical device object 310 represents the radio volume control dial 302 physical device, a TempSlider logical device object 312 represents the temperature control slider 304 physical device, and a

RadioStationDial logical device object 314 represents the radio station control dial 306 physical device. In operation, the application program 308 can obtain device data from the physical devices 302-306 utilizing the corresponding one-dimensional logical device object ~~310-312~~ 312-314. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Generally, descriptive names are utilized for the program objects in a system, such as the logical device objects. For example, a ~~Cadillac~~ CADILLAC™ temperature control logical device object may be named ~~'CadillacTempDial,'~~ 'CADILLACTempDial,' while a ~~Nissan~~ NISSAN™ temperature control logical device object may be named ~~'NissanTempSlider.'~~ 'NISSANTempSlider.' Embodiments of the present invention allow the application program 308 to be utilized in both systems through the use of generic logical names for the physical devices in a system. Then, when the application program is executed in a particular system, the actual physical device names for the software components representing physical devices are mapped to the generic logical names. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- For example, the application program 308 can represent a temperature slider using a generic logical device name, such as 'TempControl.' Since the application program 308 generally only requires device data, such as the state of the temperature control device, the application program 308 can interact with a generic TempControl object that represents a one-dimensional logical device object for a temperature control. That is, the application program is generally not concerned with the specifics of how a particular control operates, the application program generally only wants the data the control provides. Using the embodiments of the present invention, the actual logical device for the temperature control is mapped to the generic logical device name 'TempControl' when the application program is later executed in a particular system. For example, when the application program 308 is executed in the above ~~Cadillac~~ CADILLAC™ system, the generic logical device name 'TempControl' is mapped to the logical device object ~~'CadillacTempDial.'~~ 'CADILLACTempDial.' Similarly, when the application program 308 is executed in the above ~~Nissan~~ NISSAN™ system, the generic logical device name 'TempControl' is mapped to the logical device object ~~'NissanTempSlider.'~~ 'NISSANTempSlider.' To provide the logical device name mapping, embodiments of the present invention utilize a logical device manager, as described next with reference to Figure 4.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- ~~Retuning~~ Returning to Figure 4, in operation 408, the actual physical device name for the software component representing the selected physical device is determined. Referring to Figure 5, the logical device manager 500 determines which software component 310-314 represents the radio volume control for the system. For example, in Figure 5, the logical device manager will determine that software component 310 represents a radio volume control for the system. At this point, the logical device manager 500 determines the actual physical device name for the software component 310. For example, in a ~~Cadillac~~ CADILLAC™ system the radio volume control software component 310 may have the physical device name ~~"CadillacRadioVolumeControl."~~ 'CADILLACRadioVolumeControl.' --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Then, in operation 410, the physical device name and/or handle is provided to the requesting application. Returning to Figure 5, once the logical device manager 500 has determined the actual physical device name for software component 310, the logical device manager 500 provides the physical device name to the requesting application 308. For example, the logical device manager 500, in the example of Figure 5, can provide the physical device name ~~"CadillacRadioVolumeControl"~~ 'CADILLACRadioVolumeControl' to the application program 308. Optionally, the logical device manager 500 can return the handle, or other software pointer, to the software component 310 that represents the radio volume control for the system. In this manner, the application program 308 can obtain the physical device name or handle to the software component representing the radio volume control physical device without prior knowledge of the specific telematics operating environment in which the application program 308 will be executed. --